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ACTION EUR-00INFO LOG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00
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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
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AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
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AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USNATODept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafel, Dir.
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Date 2/22/02 Exemption _____~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 BUDAPEST 08188

E.O. 12356:N/A

TAGS: PREL, PHUM, PINS, NU, AO, HU, RO
SUBJECT: PARTY DAILY CHARGES USG PROMOTES "INHUMAN
RIGHTS."1. BEGIN SUMMARY: A RECENT ARTICLE IN THE HUNGARIAN
PARTY DAILY CRITICIZED STRONGLY U.S. POLICIES CONCERNING
HUMAN RIGHTS, ESPECIALLY IN THE CASE OF NICARAGUA AND
ANGOLA. SPECIFIC DIMINUTION OF THE USG'S ADVOCACY OF
HUMAN RIGHTS IS UNUSUAL IN THAT HUNGARY BELIEVES IT HAS
A RELATIVELY CLEAN HUMAN RIGHTS SLATE AND QUIETLY
WELCOMES HUMAN RIGHTS SCRUTINY OF ITS NEIGHBORS,
ESPECIALLY ROMANIA. END SUMMARY.~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~

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2. A SEPTEMBER 8 PIECE TITLED "INHUMAN RIGHTS" BY SANDOR
BOCZ IN THE PARTY DAILY "NEPSZABADSAG" CRITICIZED
STRONGLY AMERICAN POLICY TOWARDS NICARAGUA AND ANGOLA.
BOCZ CHARGED, INTER ALIA, THAT "AMERICAN POLICY MAKERS
DECLARED WAR AGAINST INDEPENDENT NICARAGUA IN THE NAME
OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THEY INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS
OF THE SMALL COUNTRY, ORGANIZE, DIRECT AND FINANCE THE
OVERTHROWING OF THE MANAGUA GOVERNMENT CLAIMING - AMONG
OTHER THINGS - THAT THE SANDINISTAS BANNED A RIGHTIST
NEWSPAPER AND SENT A ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP INTO EXILE
BECAUSE HE HAD INSTIGATED REBELLION IN HIS CHURCH
AGAINST THE REVOLUTIONARY SYSTEM. IN THE NAME OF
PROTECTING "HUMAN RIGHTS," WASHINGTON NATURALLYUNCLASSIFIED
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ARROGATES A RIGHT TO ITSELF TO ARM AND TRAIN COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY FORCES--IN OTHER WORDS CONTRAS UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF CIA, WHO FIGHT FOR THE RESTORATION OF "HUMAN RIGHTS." . . .

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3. TURNING TO ANGOLA, BOCZ WROTE THAT "CRUEL EVENTS IN ANGOLA DO NOT UPSET THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT EITHER. THE SHIPMENT OF ARMS ORGANIZED BY THE CIA SERVES THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING TERROR FOR "HUMAN RIGHTS." . . . SAVIMBI'S GANG FIGHTS WITH THE LUANDA GOVERNMENT BY KILLING CHILDREN, WOMEN, BY PLANTING MINES IN AGRICULTURAL FIELDS AND BY BURNING VILLAGES AND TOWNS. ONE ATTACK IN CAMABATELA CLAIMED THE LIVES OF 107 VILLAGE PEOPLE INCLUDING A METHODIST PASTOR. SAVIMBI OPENLY BRAGS THAT HIS COMPANIONS HAVE SHOT DOWN COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT FULL OF PASSENGERS."

4. BOCZ CONCLUDED THAT "WASHINGTON HANDLES HUMAN RIGHTS WITH A GREAT DEAL OF "FLEXIBILITY." IT TAKES TIME TO LIS HOW MANY DICTATORS THE U.S. SUPPORTED FROM FRANCO AND SALAZAR THROUGH SOMOZA AND PINOCHET TO IAN SMITH AND PETER BOTHA. IF WE TRY TO FIND AN EXPLANATION FOR

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THE CYNICAL AND HYPOCRITICAL POLICY OF "HUMAN RIGHTS" THE ONLY LOGICAL CONCLUSION IS THAT A DICTATOR IS ALSO A HUMAN BEING WHOSE RIGHTS SHOULD BE PROTECTED AS LONG AS POSSIBLE AND AS LONG AS INTERESTS DEMAND IT. "

5. IN MEETING WITH MFA PRESS CHIEF SZABO SEPT 12 TO DISCUSS COVERAGE OF DANILOFF DETENTION, DCM TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE THIS ARTICLE CITING IT AS THE TYPE OF BIASED, ANTI-AMERICAN POLEMIC WHICH WAS UNHELPFUL TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MORE POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE IN OUR RELATIONS. SZABO RESPONDED THAT BOCZ HAD SPENT AN EXTENDED PERIOD IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND TENDED TO BE PARTICULARLY SHARP, POSSIBLY AS A RESULT OF MANY YEARS O EXPOSURE TO THE ARABIC PRESS. HE ADDED QUICKLY THAT IN ANY EVENT THE OUTPUT OF HUNGARIAN JOURNALISTS WAS NOT CONTROLLED BY THE MFA AND, UNDER THE NEW PRESS LAW, JOURNALISTS WERE GUARANTEED A GREAT DEAL OF INDEPENDENCE. WE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE NEW PRESS LAW IS A STEP IN THIS DIRECTION, BUT POINTED OUT THAT SLANDEROUS ARTICLES SUCH AS BOCZ'S REMAINED VERY OFFENSIVE TO US, PARTICULARLY IN A COUNTRY WERE CRITICISMS OF SO MANY SUBJECTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE RELATING TO THE OTHER SUPERPOWER, WERE AN ABSOLUTE TABOO. IN THIS REGARD WE NOTED THAT HUNGARTAN AUTHORITIES SYSTEMATICALLY BLOCKED A NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ISSUE WITH A COVER STORY ON AFGHANISTAN FROM ENTERING THE COUNTRY. SEEKING TO RETURN TO OUR RELATIVELY UNCONTENTIOUS DISCUSSION OF HUNGARIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF THE DANILOFF CASE, SZABO SUGGESTED WE PURSUE ANY FURTHER OBJECTIONS WITH SENIOR EDITORS OF NEPSZABADSAG, A FOLLOW-UP ACTION WE INTEND TO TAKE.

6. COMMENT: THIS IS ONE OF THE MORE EGREGIOUS PIECES ON USG HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY WE HAVE READ RECENTLY. WE KNOW LITTLE ABOUT BOCZ OTHER THAN THAT HE WAS THE

"NEPSZABADSAG" CORRESPONDENT IN BEIRUT FROM APPROXIMATELY

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SUBJECT: PARTY DAILY CHARGES USG PROMOTES "INHUMAN

1982-1985 UNTIL RETURNING TO BUDAPEST TO JOIN THE
FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECTION OF THE PARTY PAPER. THE PIECE IS
PECULIAR IN THAT BEARING IN MIND HUNGARY'S RELATIVELY
GOOD HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD, FOR THEIR OWN DOMESTIC
PURPOSES, I.E., RE THE SITUATION OF ETHNIC HUNGARIAN'S
IN ROMANIA, THE GOH USUALLY WELCOMES THE ELEVATION OF
HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERN'S TO INTERNATIONAL SCRUTINY.

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